

## USAID EVALUATION AGENDA FOR FY 2000-2001

The Policy and Program Coordination Bureau prepares and updates annually a two-year agenda of evaluation studies. The agenda addresses issues of high priority to managers across the agency. Evaluation of a topic should also be feasible in terms of available data and experience. Studies should likewise produce actionable lessons. The Program Operations and Assessment Division, USAID's central evaluation unit located in the Center for Development Information and Evaluation, is responsible for undertaking the studies, in collaboration with other bureaus.

The agenda includes two types of studies: experience reviews and evaluations as described below:

### **Experience Reviews**

These are assessments of what USAID (and/or others) have done, accomplished, and learned in particular development areas, relying mostly on secondary data, and written primarily for technical and professional audiences. These topics may also be candidates for later evaluations based on experience review findings. These experience reviews are being initiated in FY 2000:

- a. A review of *poverty reduction* efforts across development sectors. The study will summarize USAID's and other donors' experience and examine new ways of looking at poverty and poverty reduction.
- b. A review of the Agency's role in promoting *the development of civil society*. This will include work in democracy and governance as well as attempt to capture USAID's experience in a number of development sectors.
- c. A review of the nature and scope of USAID's *global climate change* activities and the results of our investments.
- d. A review of USAID's experience in *child survival programs*, focusing on upscaling pilot activities.

The following topics, among others, *will be considered* for initiation in FY 2001:

- a. An update of the 1996 review of USAID's experience with *endowments*.
- b. A review of the effectiveness of *regional programs* and efforts to promote *regional integration*.

- c. A review of USAID's and other donors' experience in *developing land markets and establishing related property rights*, and the impact of these activities across a range of program areas.
- d. A review of the effectiveness of USAID's programs *in non-presence countries*.
- e. A review of *graduated PHN programs, focusing on sustainability*.
- f. A review of what USAID and other donors have done to enhance *Early Childhood Development*, with what results, across a range of sectors.
- g. A broad review of *USAID's research investments*, what they have accomplished, and how they have affected policies and programs.

## **Evaluations**

These are assessments of what USAID (and others) have done, accomplished, and learned in particular development areas, based mostly on primary data collection, and aimed largely at technical and professional audiences. This year analytical work will be completed on four ongoing evaluations:

- a. *Durable partnerships between U.S. and partner country non-governmental organizations,*
- b. *Urban and industrial pollution,*
- c. *Cross-sectoral democracy program linkages, and*
- d. *Women in post-conflict societies.*

USAID will also complete final write-ups for studies of *complex emergencies* and *capital markets*. The following new evaluations will be initiated in FY 2000:

- a. An operations assessment of *USAID's role in Transitional Programs*.
- b. A study of *poverty reduction programs*.